Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/641,801	STANTON ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Christopher J Nichols, Ph.D.	1647	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to *29 July 2004*.

2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are *1-4, 6-9, 11, 13-35, 40-44*.

3. ☒ The drawings filed on *17 August 2000* are accepted by the Examiner.

4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
   a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
      1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
      2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .
      3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

   * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
   (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
      1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
   (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date 7.29.04
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Status of Application, Amendments, and/or Claims

1. The Supplemental Response filed 22 June 2004 has been received and entered in full.

2. The Response and Amendment filed 17 May 2004 has been received and entered in full.

3. The Terminal Disclaimer filed 22 July 2004 has been received and entered in full.

Withdrawn Objections And/Or Rejections

4. All previous Objections and Rejections are hereby *withdrawn*.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

5. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

In the Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended) A method ~~of~~ for inducing a cytokine in a cell, the method comprising contacting the cell with an immunological regulator under conditions effective to induce a cytokine, wherein the immunological regulator ~~consists of MQPPPLP (SEQ ID NO:1), an active analog thereof, and combinations thereof, wherein the active analog comprises a peptide having an amino acid sequence with at least about 15 percent proline and having at least~~

~~about 70 percent sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:1~~ is selected from the group consisting of a constituent peptide of colostrinin, an active analog thereof, and combinations thereof;

wherein the constituent peptide of colostrinin is selected from the group consisting of MQPPPLP (SEQ ID NO:1), LQTPQPLLQVMMEPQGD (SEQ ID NO:2), DQPPDVEKPDLQPFQVQS (SEQ ID KO:3), LFFFLPVGVLP (SEQ ID NO:4), DLEMPVLPVEPFPFV (SEQ ID NO:5), MPQNFYKLPQM (SEQ ID NO:6), VLEMKFPPPPQETVT (SEQ ID NO:7), LKPFPCKVEVFPFP (SEQ ID NO:8), and MHQPPQPLPPTVMFP (SEQ ID NO:34); and

wherein the active analog comprises a peptide having an amino acid sequence with at least about 15 percent proline and having at least about 70 percent sequence identity to a constituent peptide of colostrinin selected from the group consisting of MQPPPLP (SEQ ID NO:1), LQTPQPLLQVMMEPQGD (SEQ ID NO:2), DQPPDVEKPDLQPFQVQS (SEQ ID KO:3), LFFFLPVGVLP (SEQ ID NO:4), DLEMPVLPVEPFPFV (SEQ ID NO:5), MPQNFYKLPQM (SEQ ID NO:6), VLEMKFPPPPQETVT (SEQ ID NO:7), LKPFPCKVEVFPFP (SEQ ID NO:8), and MHQPPQPLPPTVMFP (SEQ ID NO:34) and wherein said active analog induces a cytokine.

Claim 2 (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the cell is present in a cell culture, a tissue, an organ, or an organism.

Claim 3 (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the cell is a mammalian cell.

Claim 4 (Original) The method of claim 3 wherein the cell is a human cell.

Claim 5 (Cancelled)

Claim 6 (Currently Amended) A method for modulating an immune response in a cell, the method comprising contacting the cell with an immunological regulator under conditions effective to induce a cytokine, wherein the immunological regulator ~~consists of MQPPPLP (SEQ ID NO:1), an active analog thereof, and combinations thereof, wherein the active analog comprises a peptide having an amino acid sequence with at least about 15 percent proline and having at least about 70 percent sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:1~~ is selected from the group consisting of a constituent peptide of colostrinin, an active analog thereof, and combinations thereof;

wherein the constituent peptide of colostrinin is selected from the group consisting of MQPPPLP (SEQ ID NO:1), LQTPQPLLQVMMEPQGD (SEQ ID NO:2), DQPPDVEKPDLQPFQVQS (SEQ ID KO:3), LFFFLPVGVLP (SEQ ID NO:4), DLEMPVLPVEPFPFV (SEQ ID NO:5), MPQNFYKLPQM (SEQ ID NO:6), VLEMKFPPPPQETVT (SEQ ID NO:7), LKPFPCKVEVFPFP (SEQ ID NO:8), and MHQPPQPLPPTVMFP (SEQ ID NO:34); and

wherein the active analog comprises a peptide having an amino acid sequence with at least about 15 percent proline and having at least about 70 percent sequence identity to a constituent peptide of colostrinin selected from the group consisting of

MQPPPLP (SEQ ID NO:1), LQTPQPLLQVMMEPQGD (SEQ ID NO:2), DQPPDVEKPDLQPFQVQS (SEQ ID KO:3), LFFFLPVGVLP (SEQ ID NO:4), DLEMPVLPVEPFPFV (SEQ ID NO:5), MPQNFYKLPQM (SEQ ID NO:6), VLEMKFPPPPQETVT (SEQ ID NO:7), LKPFPCKVEVFPFP (SEQ ID NO:8), and MHQPPQPLPPTVMFP (SEQ ID NO:34) and wherein said active analog modulates an immune response.

Claim 7 (Original) The method of claim 6 wherein the cell is present in a cell culture, a tissue, an organ, or an organism.

Claim 8 (Original) The method of claim 6 wherein the cell is a mammalian cell.

Claim 9 (Original) The method of claim 8 wherein the cell is a human cell.

Claim 10 (Cancelled)

Claim 11 (Currently Amended) A method for modulating an immune response in a patient, the method comprising administering to the patient an immunological regulator under conditions effective to induce a cytokine, wherein the immunological regulator ~~consists of MQPPPLP (SEQ ID NO:1), an active analog thereof, and combinations thereof, wherein the active analog comprises a peptide having an amino acid sequence with at least about 15 percent proline and having at least about 70 percent sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:1~~ is selected from the group

consisting of a constituent peptide of colostrinin, an active analog thereof, and combinations thereof;

wherein the constituent peptide of colostrinin is selected from the group consisting of MQPPPLP (SEQ ID NO:1), LQTPQPLLQVMMEPQGD (SEQ ID NO:2), DQPPDVEKPDLQPFQVQS (SEQ ID KO:3), LFFFLPVGVLP (SEQ ID NO:4), DLEMPVLPVEPFPFV (SEQ ID NO:5), MPQNFYKLPQM (SEQ ID NO:6), VLEMKFPPPPQETVT (SEQ ID NO:7), LKPFPCKVEVFPFP (SEQ ID NO:8), and MHQPPQPLPPTVMFP (SEQ ID NO:34); and

wherein the active analog comprises a peptide having an amino acid sequence with at least about 15 percent proline and having at least about 70 percent sequence identity to a constituent peptide of colostrinin selected from the group consisting of MQPPPLP (SEQ ID NO:1), LQTPQPLLQVMMEPQGD (SEQ ID NO:2), DQPPDVEKPDLQPFQVQS (SEQ ID KO:3), LFFFLPVGVLP (SEQ ID NO:4), DLEMPVLPVEPFPFV (SEQ ID NO:5), MPQNFYKLPQM (SEQ ID NO:6), VLEMKFPPPPQETVT (SEQ ID NO:7), LKPFPCKVEVFPFP (SEQ ID NO:8), and MHQPPQPLPPTVMFP (SEQ ID NO:34) and wherein said active analog modulates an immune response.

Claim 12 (Cancelled)

Claim 13 (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein the immunological regulator is administered as part of a dietary supplement.

Claim 14 (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein the immunological regulator is administered topically.

Claim 15 (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein the patient is an animal.

Claim 16 (Original) The method of claim 15 wherein the patient is a human.

Claim 17 (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein the immune response is a specific immune response.

Claim 18 (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein the immune response is a nonspecific immune response.

Claim 19 (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein the immune response is the interferon response or antibody production.

Claim 20 (Currently Amended) A method for modulating leukocyte proliferation, the method comprising contacting leukocytes with a leukocyte regulator selected from the group consisting of colostrinin, a constituent peptide thereof, an active analog thereof, and combinations thereof, under conditions effective to change the number of leukocytes;

wherein the constituent peptide of colostrinin is selected from the group consisting of MQPPPLP (SEQ ID NO:1), LQTPQPLLQVMMEPQGD (SEQ ID NO:2), DQPPDVEKPDLQPFQVQS (SEQ ID KO:3), LFFFLPVGVLP (SEQ ID NO:4), DLEMPVLPVEPFPFV (SEQ ID NO:5), MPQNFYKLPQM (SEQ ID NO:6), VLEMKFPPPPQETVT (SEQ ID NO:7), LKPFPCKVEVFPFP (SEQ ID NO:8), VESYVPLFP (SEQ ID NO:31), and MHQPPQPLPPTVMFP (SEQ ID NO:34);

wherein the active analog comprises a peptide having an amino acid sequence with at least about 15 percent proline and having at least about 70 percent sequence identity to ~~one or more constituent peptides of colostrinin, which are selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 1 through SEQ ID NO: 34;~~ a constituent peptide of colostrinin selected from the group consisting of MQPPPLP (SEQ ID NO:1), LQTPQPLLQVMMEPQGD (SEQ ID NO:2), DQPPDVEKPDLQPFQVQS (SEQ ID KO:3), LFFFLPVGVLP (SEQ ID NO:4), DLEMPVLPVEPFPFV (SEQ ID NO:5), MPQNFYKLPQM (SEQ ID NO:6), VLEMKFPPPPQETVT (SEQ ID NO:7), LKPFPCKVEVFPFP (SEQ ID NO:8), VESYVPLFP (SEQ ID NO:31), and MHQPPQPLPPTVMFP (SEQ ID NO:34);

and wherein the number of leukocytes is changed.

Claim 21 (Previously Presented) The method of claim 20 wherein the leukocytes are present in a cell culture or an organism.

Claim 22 (Previously Presented) The method of claim 20 wherein the leukocytes are mammalian cells.

Claim 23 (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22 wherein the leukocytes are human cells.

Claim 24 (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~22~~ 20 wherein the leukocytes are increased in number.

Claim 25 (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24 wherein the leukocytes are differentiated.

Claim 26 (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~22~~ 20 wherein the leukocyte regulator is a constituent peptide of colostrinin.

Claim 27 (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~26~~ 20 wherein the leukocyte regulator is ~~selected from the group consisting of MQPPPLP (SEQ ID NO:1), LQTPQPLLQVMMEPQGD (SEQ ID NO:2), DQPPDVEKPDLQPFQVQS (SEQ ID NO:3), LFFFLPVVNVLP (SEQ ID NO:4), DLEMPVLPVEPFPFV (SEQ ID NO:5), MPQNFYKLPQM (SEQ ID NO:6), VLEMKFPPPPQETVT (SEQ ID NO:7), LKPFPKLKVEVFPFP (SEQ ID NO:8), VVMEV (SEQ ID NO:9), SEQP (SEQ ID NO:10), DKE (SEQ ID NO:11), FPPPK (SEQ ID NO:12), DSQPPV (SEQ ID NO:13), DPPPPQS (SEQ ID NO:14), SEEMP (SEQ ID NO:15), KYKLQPE (SEQ ID NO:16), VLPPNVG (SEQ ID NO:17), VYPFTGPIPN (SEQ ID NO:18), SLPQNILPL (SEQ ID NO:19), TQTPVVVPPF (SEQ ID NO:20), LQPEIMGVPKVKETMVPK (SEQ ID~~

~~NO:21), HKEMPFPKYPVEPFTESQ (SEQ ID NO:22), SLTLTDVEKLHLPLPLVQ (SEQ ID NO:23), SWMHQPP (SEQ ID NO:24), QPLPPTVMFP (SEQ ID NO:25), PQSVLS (SEQ ID NO:26), LSQPKVLPVPQKAVPQRDMPIQ (SEQ ID NO:27), AFLLYQE (SEQ ID NO:28), RGPFPILV (SEQ ID NO:29), ATFNRYQDDHGEEILKSL (SEQ ID NO:30),~~ the colostrinin constituent peptide VESYVPLFP (SEQ ID NO:31), ~~FLLYQEPVLGPVR (SEQ ID NO:32), LNF (SEQ ID NO:33), and MHQPPQPLPPTVMFP (SEQ ID NO:34),~~ an active analog thereof, ~~and combinations~~ or a combination thereof~~; wherein the active analog comprises a peptide having an amino acid sequence with at least about 70 percent sequence identity to one or more constituent peptides of colostrinin, which are selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 1 through SEQ ID NO: 34~~.

Claim 28 (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~27~~ 20 wherein the leukocyte regulator is ~~selected from the group consisting of~~ the colostrinin constituent peptide MQPPPLP (SEQ ID NO:1), ~~LQTPQPLLQVMMEPQGD (SEQ ID NO:2), DQPPDVEKPDLQPFQVQS (SEQ ID NO:3), LFFFLPVVNVLP (SEQ ID NO:4), DLEMPVLPVEPFPFV (SEQ ID NO:5), MPQNFYKLPQM (SEQ ID NO:6), VLEMKFPPPPQETVT (SEQ ID NO:7), LKPFPKLKVEVFPFP (SEQ ID NO:8), VYPFTGPIPN (SEQ ID NO:18), SLPQNILPL (SEQ ID NO:19), TQTPVVVPPF (SEQ ID NO:20), HKEMPFPKYPVEPFTESQ (SEQ ID NO:22), and combinations,~~ an active analog thereof, or a combination thereof.

Claim 29 (Currently Amended) A method for modulating leukocyte proliferation in a patient, the method comprising administering to the patient a leukocyte regulator selected from the group

consisting of colostrinin, a constituent peptide thereof, an active analog thereof, and combinations thereof, under conditions effective to change the number of leukocytes;

wherein the constituent peptide of colostrinin is selected from the group consisting of MQPPPLP (SEQ ID NO:1), LQTPQPLLQVMMEPQGD (SEQ ID NO:2), DQPPDVEKPDLQPFQVQS (SEQ ID KO:3), LFFFLPVGVLP (SEQ ID NO:4), DLEMPVLPVEPFPFV (SEQ ID NO:5), MPQNFYKLPQM (SEQ ID NO:6), VLEMKFPPPPQETVT (SEQ ID NO:7), LKPFPCKVEVFPFP (SEQ ID NO:8), VESYVPLFP (SEQ ID NO:31), and MHQPPQPLPPTVMFP (SEQ ID NO:34);

wherein the active analog comprises a peptide having an amino acid sequence with at least about 15 percent proline and having at least about 70 percent sequence identity to ~~one or more constituent peptides of colostrinin, which are selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 1 through SEQ ID NO: 34;~~ a constituent peptide of colostrinin selected from the group consisting of MQPPPLP (SEQ ID NO:1), LQTPQPLLQVMMEPQGD (SEQ ID NO:2), DQPPDVEKPDLQPFQVQS (SEQ ID KO:3), LFFFLPVGVLP (SEQ ID NO:4), DLEMPVLPVEPFPFV (SEQ ID NO:5), MPQNFYKLPQM (SEQ ID NO:6), VLEMKFPPPPQETVT (SEQ ID NO:7), LKPFPCKVEVFPFP (SEQ ID NO:8), VESYVPLFP (SEQ ID NO:31), and MHQPPQPLPPTVMFP (SEQ ID NO:34);

and wherein the number of leukocytes is changed.

Claim 30 (Original) The method of claim 29 wherein the patient is a human.

Claim 31 (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29 wherein the leukocytes are increased in number.

Claim 32 (Previously Presented) The method of claim 31 wherein the leukocytes are differentiated.

Claim 33 (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29 wherein the leukocyte regulator is a constituent peptide of colostrinin.

Claim 34 (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~33~~ 29 wherein the leukocyte regulator ~~is selected from the group consisting of MQPPPLP (SEQ ID NO:1), LQTPQPLLQVMMEPQGD (SEQ ID NO:2), DQPPDVEKPDLQPFQVQS (SEQ ID NO:3), LFFFLPVVNVLP (SEQ ID NO:4), DLEMPVLPVEPFPFV (SEQ ID NO:5), MPQNFYKLPQM (SEQ ID NO:6), VLEMKFPPPPQETVT (SEQ ID NO:7), LKPFPKLKVEVFPFP (SEQ ID NO:8), VVMEV (SEQ ID NO:9), SEQP (SEQ ID NO:10), DKE (SEQ ID NO:11), FPPPK (SEQ ID NO:12), DSQPPV (SEQ ID NO:13), DPPPPQS (SEQ ID NO:14), SEEMP (SEQ ID NO:15), KYKLQPE (SEQ ID NO:16), VLPPNVG (SEQ ID NO:17), VYPFTGPIPN (SEQ ID NO:18), SLPQNILPL (SEQ ID NO:19), TQTPVVVPPF (SEQ ID NO:20), LQPEIMGVPKVKETMVPK (SEQ ID NO:21), HKEMPFPKYPVEPFTESQ (SEQ ID NO:22), SLTLTDVEKLHLPLPLVQ (SEQ ID NO:23), SWMHQPP (SEQ ID NO:24), QPLPPTVMFP (SEQ ID NO:25), PQSVLS (SEQ ID NO:26), LSQPKVLPVPQKAVPQRDMPIQ (SEQ ID NO:27), AFLLYQE (SEQ ID NO:28),~~

~~RGPFPILV (SEQ ID NO:29), ATFNRYQDDHGEEILKSL (SEQ ID NO:30),~~ is the colostrinin constituent peptide VESYVPLFP (SEQ ID NO:31), ~~FLLYQEPVLGPVR (SEQ ID NO:32), LNF (SEQ ID NO:33), and MHQPPQPLPPTVMFP (SEQ ID NO:34),~~ an active analog thereof, ~~and combinations~~ or a combination thereof~~; wherein the active analog comprises a peptide having an amino acid sequence with at least about 70 percent sequence identity to one or more constituent peptides of colostrinin, which are selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 1 through SEQ ID NO: 34~~.

Claim 35 (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~34~~ 29 wherein the leukocyte regulator is the colostrinin constituent peptide ~~selected from the group consisting of~~ MQPPPLP (SEQ ID NO:1), ~~LQTPQPLLQVMMEPQGD (SEQ ID NO:2), DQPPDVEKPDLQPFQVQS (SEQ ID NO:3), LFFFLPVVNVLP (SEQ ID NO:4), DLEMPVLPVEPFPFV (SEQ ID NO:5), MPQNFYKLPQM (SEQ ID NO:6), VLEMKFPPPPQETVT (SEQ ID NO:7), LKPFPKLKVEVFPFP (SEQ ID NO:8), VYPFTGPIPN (SEQ ID NO:18), SLPQNILPL (SEQ ID NO:19), TQTPVVVPPF (SEQ ID NO:20), HKEMPFPKYPVEPFTESQ (SEQ ID NO:22), and combinations,~~ an active analog thereof, ~~and combination~~ or a combination thereof.

Claims 36-39 (Cancelled)

Claim 40 (New) The method of claim 29 wherein the leukocyte regulator is administered as part of a dietary supplement.

Claim 41 (New) The method of claim 29 wherein the leukocyte regulator is administered topically.

Claim 42 (New) The method of claim 1 wherein the immunological regulator is the colostrinin constituent peptide MQPPPLP (SEQ ID NO: 1), an active analog thereof, or a combination thereof.

Claim 43 (New) The method of claim 6 wherein the immunological regulator is the colostrinin constituent peptide MQPPPLP (SEQ ID NO: 1), an active analog thereof, or a combination thereof.

Claim 44 (New) The method of claim 11 wherein the immunological regulator is the colostrinin constituent peptide MQPPPLP (SEQ ID NO: 1), an active analog thereof, or a combination thereof.

6. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Nancy Johnson on 20 October 2004.

7. Additional claims are required in order to make an examiner's amendment that places this application in condition for allowance. During a telephone conversation conducted on 28 October 2004, Nancy Johnson authorized the Director to charge Deposit Account No. 13-4895 the required fee of $40 for these additional claims and authorized the following examiner's amendment. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment

may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Summary

8. Claims **1-4, 6-9, 11, 13-35,** and **40-44** are hereby allowed.

9. The Examiner acknowledges that acceptance of the above Examiner's Amendment does not mitigate in any way, shape, or form, Applicant's right to pursue additional subject matter in continuation, continuation-in-part, and/or divisional applications pursuant to 35 U.S.C. §120 and §121.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Christopher James Nichols, Ph.D.** whose telephone number is **(571) 272-0889**. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, **Brenda Brumback** can be reached on **(571) 272-0961**.

The fax number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is **703-872-9306**.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see **http://pair-direct.uspto.gov**. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at **866-217-9197** (toll-free).

Elizabeth C. Kemmerer

CJN
October 20, 2004